

Exhibit 1

Date 2-13-15

Bill No. HB 224

HB 224

Susan Nicosia [nicosias@cityofcolumbiafalls.com]

Sent: Friday, February 13, 2015 11:17 AM**To:** Taylor, Janna (Sen); Tutvedt@montanasky.us

Senators Taylor and Tutvedt:

Please support the passage of HB 224, amending two components of the Building Code Bureau program. Representative Zac Perry sponsored this bill at the request of the City of Columbia Falls. The amendment to allow the City to carry over 24 months of expenditure in the form of a cash reserve instead of the current 12 months of expenditures provides financial stability to the program and allow it to match the ups and downs we experience in building permit issuance. Additionally, the elimination of the special audit, an "agreed upon procedures engagement," not only will save the city's program \$900 - \$1,500, but the program is audited as part of the City's comprehensive financial and compliance single audit. Dave Cook, Director of the State's Building Codes Bureau that oversees the City's Certified Building Code Program, is in favor of these proposals.

The City of Columbia Falls appreciates your support of HB 224. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns regarding HB 224.

Thank you,

Susan

Susan M. Nicosia

City Manager/Planning & Zoning Administrator

130 6th St West, Columbia Falls, MT 59912

Office: 406-892-5149

Cell: 406-270-9865

1